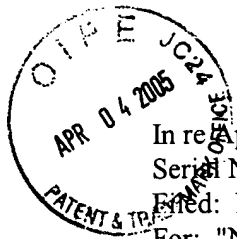


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of: OAKLEY et al.  
Serial No.: 10/701,702  
Filed: November 5, 2003  
For: "Nitrogen Rejection Method and Apparatus"  
Atty. Dkt.: M02B131

Group Art Unit: 3744  
Examiner: William Charles Doerrler

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 31, 2005.

Betty Lee  
Printed name of person signing this certificate

Betty Lee  
(Date)  
Signature of person mailing

**STATEMENT FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(e)**

**IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
FOR WHICH THIS STATEMENT IS BEING MADE**

1. This statement is being made for the Information Disclosure Statement herewith.

**STATEMENT**

2. I, the person signing below, state that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(e)(1).

**IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON MAKING THIS STATEMENT**

3. The person making this certification is:  
(a) the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information in the practitioner's file.

Date: MARCH 31, 2005

Philip H. Von Neida  
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No.: 34,942  
Tel. No.: (908) 771-6402  
Customer No.: 020411

Philip H. Von Neida  
The BOC Group, Inc.  
Legal Services-Intellectual Property  
575 Mountain Avenue  
Murray Hill, NJ 07974

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: OAKLEY et al.  
Serial No.: 10/701,702  
Filed: November 5, 2003  
For: "Nitrogen Rejection Method and Apparatus"  
Atty. Dkt.: M02B131

Group Art Unit: 3744  
Examiner: William Charles Doerrler

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 31, 2005  
(Date)

Betty Lee  
Printed name of person signing this certificate

Betty Lee  
Signature of person mailing

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION  
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(C))**

**TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but before the mailing date of either:

- (1) a final action under § 1.113 or
- (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311,

whichever occurs first.

**STATEMENT OR FEE**

2. Accompanying this transmittal is

(check either A or B below)

A. ☒ a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

**OR**

B. ☐ the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c). (\$180.00).

**FEE PAYMENT**

(complete this item, if applicable)

3. Applicant elects the option to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c) (\$180.00).

Fee due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE**

4. ☐ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ to Deposit Account No. 02-2865
- ☐ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

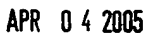
A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Date: MARCH 31, 2005

Reg. No. 34,942  
Tel. No.: (908) 771-6402  
Customer No.: 020411

  
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Philip H. Von Neida  
Legal Services-Intellectual Property  
The BOC Group, Inc.  
575 Mountain Ave.  
Murray Hill, NJ 07974



Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/701,702
Filing Date	November 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Oakey et al.
Art Unit	3744
Examiner Name	William C. Doerrler
Attorney Docket Number	M02B131

Sheet	1	of	2
-------	---	----	---

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	3	DE 35 22 370 A1	01-02-1987	Linde AG		
	4	DE 102 15 125 A1	10-16-2003	Linde AG		

**Examiner  
Signature**

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/701,702
Filing Date	November 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Oakey et al.
Art Unit	3744
Examiner Name	Charles W. Doerrler
Attorney Docket Number	M02B131

Sheet 2 of 2

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	5	CRAIG A. PRUITT, J. V. O'BRIEN; "Wyoming's Shute Creek Plant Uses NRU Unit," OIL & GAS JOURNAL, October 9, 1989, pp. 78-82	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.